

B O R O U G H O F C O N W A Y

A N N U A L H E A L T H R E P O R T

O F T H E


M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

F O R T H E Y E A R

1 9 4 5

Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
"Bodlondeb,"
C O N W A Y.

August, 1946.



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August, 1946.

TO: The Chairman and Members of the
HEALTH COMMITTEE,
CONWAY BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have to submit my report on the Health of the residents of Conway, during 1945.

It is only six months since I issued the report for 1944. In that report, I surveyed many phases of the work of Preventative Medicine and suggested many additions to the work of the Health Department. You very generously gave time to the discussion of these suggestions. As a result you so added to our work that I have tactfully failed to make any more suggestions. I feel that we should have time to consolidate. Milk sampling, water sampling, mesquite control, rat control, diphtheria immunisation, disinfection after tuberculosis and cancer cases, re-housing enquiries - these have all, since April, become routine duties.

The year 1945 was, from a health point of view, a good one. The statistics show a very low infant mortality, no maternal deaths, fewer deaths from tuberculosis and only 65 cases of infectious diseases.

The co-operation of parents and teachers in the drive to secure better protection against diphtheria was most encouraging.

I have now come to know my colleagues in Bodlondob and in neighbouring authorities. Many have given me help in preparing this report, thereby, showing willingness to be helpful. I have also found Dr. Parry Pritchard and his staff very willing to help me. I gladly acknowledge the goodwill that has been shown me since I came to Conway.

Above all, I must express admiration and gratitude for the steady loyalty of Mr. Rees Griffiths, Miss Jackson and Raymond Roberts, their work makes mine easy.

Behind all, stimulating and supporting us stands your Chairman: to him I offer thanks.

Yours sincerely,

W. McKENDRICK.

Medical Officer of Health.

PRESENT STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health (Part time only)

W. McKENDRICK, M.D., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector - wholly engaged in service of this Council only

REES GRIFFITHS, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Holder of specialised R.San.I. Certificate on Meat and Food

Also carries out duties as designated Officer under: -

Shops (Hours of Closing) Acts.

Young Persons (hours of Employment) Act.

Beaumaris Port Sanitary Officer (Conway Sub-District).

Collection and Disposal of House and Shop Refuse and Salvage.

Indoor Staff: Clerk - Mr. David Williams (Now on active service)

Temporary staff: Clerk - Miss Nancy Jackson.

Junior - Mr. Raymond C. Roberts.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Borough in Acres	3813
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population..	9888
Number of Inhabited Houses	2725
Rateable Value	£64,803
Sum represented by a penny rate	£255

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	61	71	132
Illegitimate	4	8	12
Total	65	79	144

Birth Rate per 1,000 population: 14.6

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	0	4	4
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total	0	4	4

Still Birth rate per 1,000 population: 0.40

DEATHS

Males	57
Females	69
Total	126

Death Rate per 1,000 population: 12.7

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

(a) Puerperal Sepsis	0
(b) Other maternal causes	0
(c) Total	0

Infant Deaths (children under 1 year)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	0	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total	3	0	3

Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 births -

Legitimate	22.7
Illegitimate	0.0
Total	20.8

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)

Males	1
Females	0
Total	1

Death Rate from Diarrhoea per 1,000 births: 7.0

For purposes of comparison I present herewith the corresponding figures for England and Wales, and those of Conway for 1944.

	England & Wales 1945	Conway 1944	Conway 1945
Live Births Rate	16.1	14.6	14.6
Still Births Rate	0.46	0.67	0.40
Infant Mortality Rate	46.0	39.7	20.8
Puerperal Mortality Rate	1.79	13.1	0.0
Death Rate	11.4	12.2	12.7

These figures are interesting - especially to those who have taken note of recent statements on Population trends. Conway is now a relatively aged population. This is partly due to the attraction of our youth to industrial areas and partly to the attraction of elderly people from industrial areas. Later I shall show that residents in Conway Borough are remarkably free from diseases of the chest. Year after year bronchitis and pneumonia take a significantly slight place in the mortality returns. This proves that Conway can justly claim to be a haven of refuge for those whose chests need kindly climatic conditions. Moreover, Conway is a very suitable winter resort for invalids.

These facts no doubt account for our relatively high death-rate and low birth-rate. In actual fact, there were 144 births and 126 deaths; but in spite of an apparent excess of births over deaths (18) the Registrar General estimates that our population has fallen by 388 inhabitants, (in 1944 there were 152 births and 127 deaths). The population of the Borough is now 9,888: this figure is obtained by calculation using many sources of information.

The following table shows the ages at which deaths registered in the Borough occurred. (It should be noted that these totals differ from the official corrected totals given by the Registrar General. His figures are concerned with Conway residents no matter where their deaths were registered).

<u>At Ages</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
0 - 1	2	0	2
1 - 5	2	1	3
5 - 14	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	1	1
35 - 44	4	-	4
45 - 54	4	7	11
55 - 64	5	5	10
65 and over	37	59	96

It is pleasing to note that only 3 babies died - and of these two died because of prematurity. The infant mortality figure of 20.8 per 1,000 births is very good indeed. There were no maternal deaths.

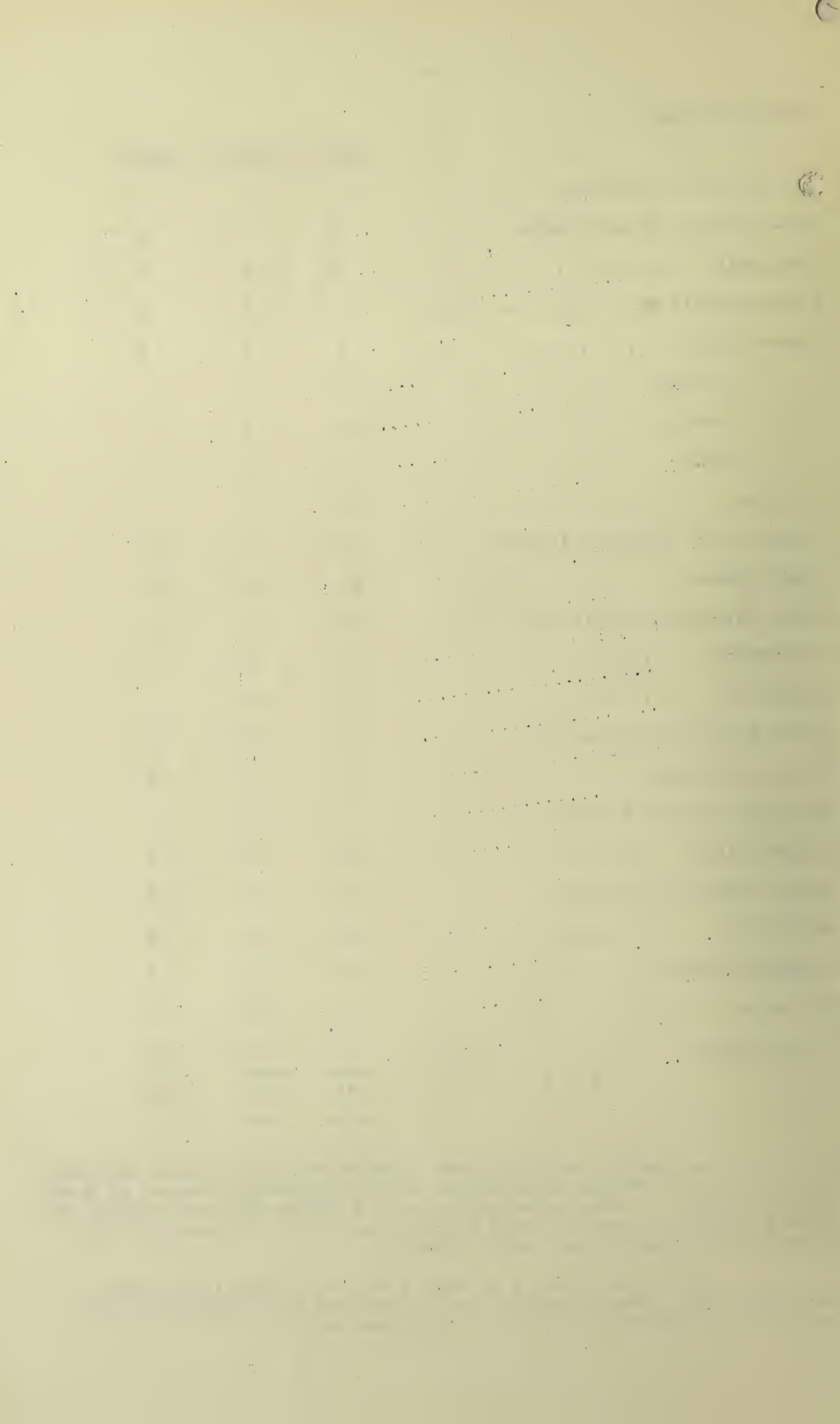
A point of importance is that although 144 Conway residents gave birth to babies during 1945, only 49 of these births occurred in the Borough. While it is true that the Corporation is not responsible for the care of mothers during confinement, it will, no doubt, be a matter of concern that no less than 95 out of 144 (86%) had to leave the town in order to be confined.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	1	3
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	0	2
Influenza	0	2	2
poliomyelitis do	0	1	1
Cancer: Mouth	1	1	2
Stomach	3	3	6
Breast	0	2	2
Other	6	12	18
Diabetes	0	1	1
Intracranial Vascular lesions	8	7	15
Heart Disease	13	21	34
Other Circulatory Diseases	0	1	1
Bronchitis	2	1	3
Pneumonia	1	0	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach	2	1	3
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	0	1
Appendicitis	0	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases	1	2	3
Nephritis	5	4	9
Premature Birth	2	0	2
Violence	0	2	2
Other Causes	7	6	13
TOTALS ...	<u>57</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>126</u>

As usual, heart disease, cancer and intracranial vascular disease (i.e. cerebral haemorrhage) are the principal causes of death in that order. Tuberculosis has dealt lightly with us in 1945, but kidney disease is surprisingly high on the list. Bronchitis and Pneumonia together caused only 4 deaths.

It is interesting to note that once again there were no deaths under "Road Traffic Act," - proving the paradox that the roads are so dangerous as to be absolutely safe.



INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Immunisation against Diphtheria

By happy co-operation with the County Medical Officer of Health, a drive to secure more adequate protection against diphtheria was undertaken in the Spring of 1946. Every school child in the Borough was given a letter to take home, in which I offered immunisation in the school. Immunisation might be either an initial treatment or a stimulating dose to bring up the potency of the initial injections. The response of parents was most heartening and with enthusiastic co-operation from the teachers, Dr. Humphries (one of the Assistant County Medical Officers) and I visited the schools as was necessary. A card index of all children in the Borough between 5 - 15 was prepared and is now being kept alive. The state of immunisation now is: -

<u>AGE 5 - 15</u>		
No. on Card Index	.....	1060
No. Immunised	.....	965
No. Never Immunised	.....	95
% Immunised	.....	91%
No. received stimulating dose	.....	824
No. not due for stimulating dose	...	105

It has not yet been possible to immunise infants against whooping-cough.

Vaccination against Smallpox

For many years, no cases of smallpox have occurred in the Borough, so parents, not unnaturally, have tended to neglect vaccination. The recent speeding up of transport - especially by using air-transport - has torn from us our defence against the disease. Our magnificent Port Medical Service was able, because of the time taken to travel from the Near East, to intercept all contacts: but this is no longer possible. As a result, we must revert to vaccination. There were 49 births registered in Conway in 1945, of these 11 were successfully vaccinated. What happened to the other 95 born registered outside the Borough, I can only guess; but my guess is that none were even offered vaccination. Thus it would appear that 11 out of 144 babies were vaccinated. I did not report the state of vaccination in 1944, but I drew the attention of the Council and of the responsible authorities to the state of affairs then.

Opthalmia Neonatorum

No cases of this disease have been notified in the Borough during 1945.

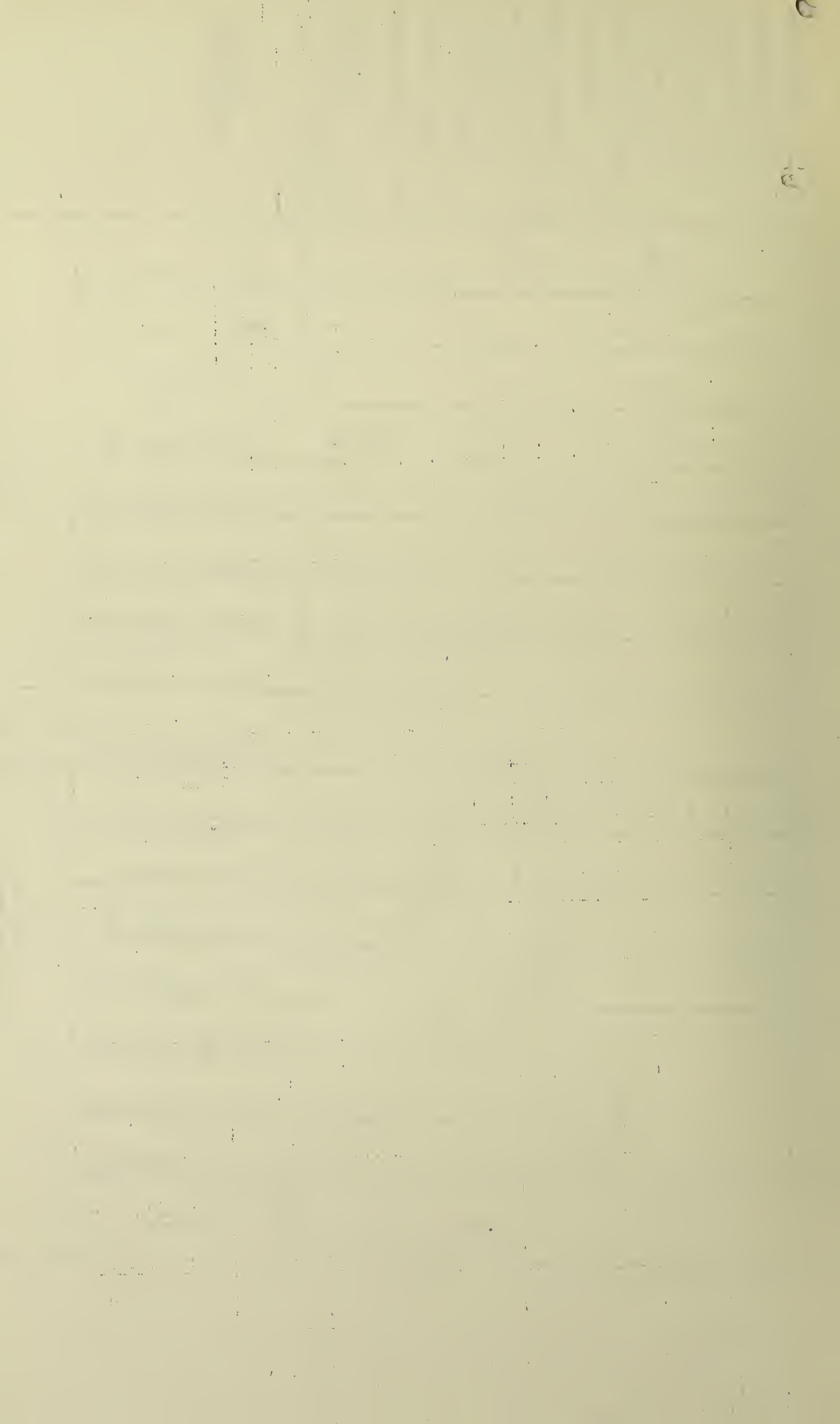
Scabies

This is not so common now as it was 3 - 4 years ago: but cases occur. The problem of hospitalisation has occurred and the Council has attempted to secure the admission, when in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health this is desirable, of such cases to the Isolation Hospital. The Joint Hospital Board, however, has not seen its way to admit these cases. No doubt the extreme difficulty in staffing Isolation Hospitals explains this action.

Other Infectious Diseases

I am glad to report that there have been no epidemics in the Borough during 1945. As will be seen from the table on page 6 there was ~~one~~ case of diphtheria.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	Number of Cases Notified at Ages							-6- Total cases removed to Hospital	Number of Deaths at Ages							
	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65		65 and upwards	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	TOTALS
Diphtheria	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever ..	4	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Enteric Fever ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	2	1	-	3
Pulmonary T.B....	14	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Forms of T.B.	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Pneumonia	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia Neon...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	30	1	1	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Whooping Cough...	5	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Poliomyelitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Fuerrperal Fever...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	20	-	11	3	2	1	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	5
	80	1	14	41	7	10	3	4	14	-	-	1	-	2	1	



Tuberculosis

It has not been necessary to take action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, (relating to the employment of persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the milk trade). Although in one case these regulations were kept in mind till I was assured that a tuberculous person had ceased to milk cows or have contact with milking utensils. Nor has it been necessary to take action under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

The number of names on the Tuberculosis Register, which was 114 in 1944, increased to 119 in 1945.

The following statement given me by the Tuberculosis Physician to the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association shows the work done towards the eradication of the disease.

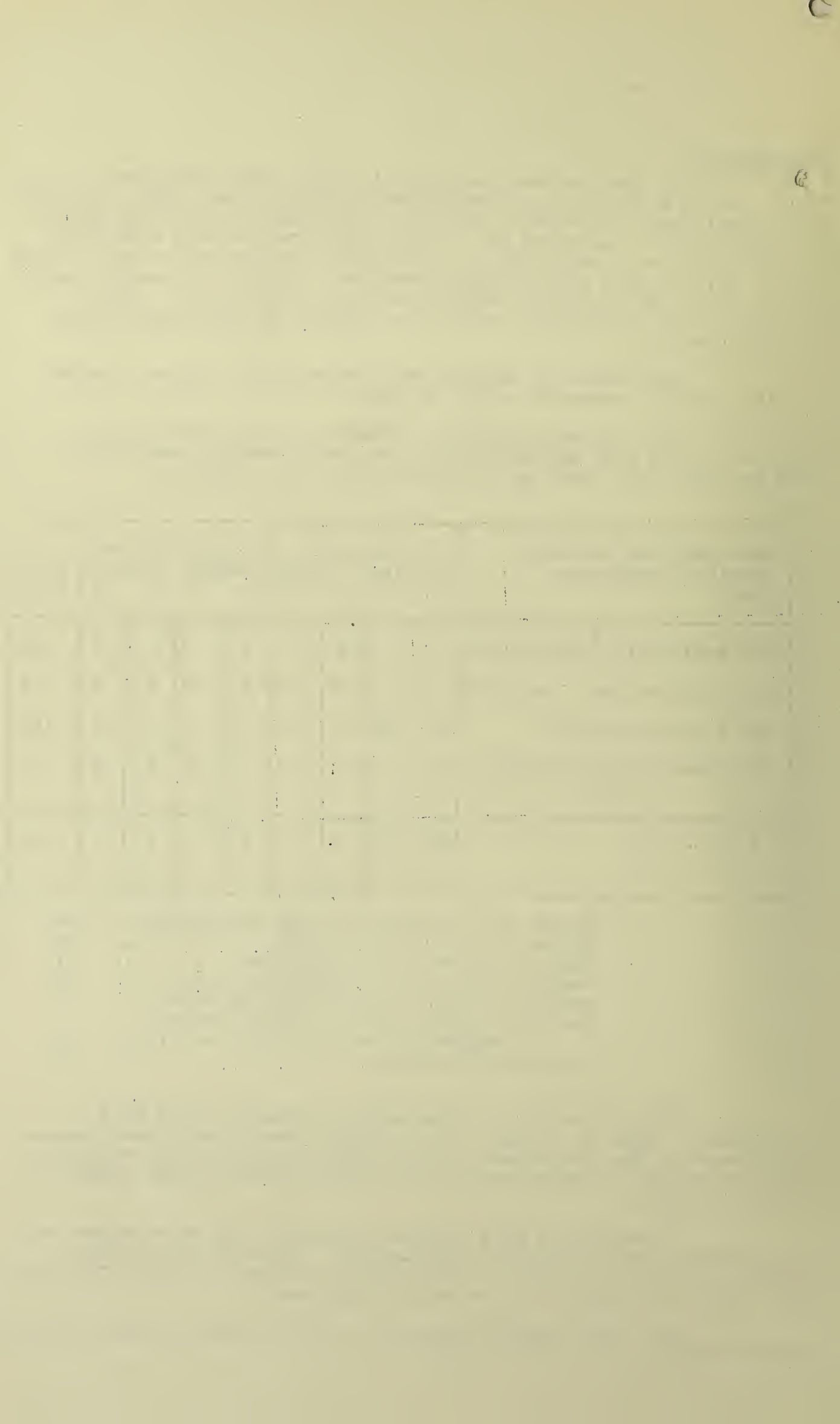
New Cases and Contacts examined during the year	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Grand Total
	Adults		C'dren		Adults		C'dren		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
(a) Definitely Tuberculosis	6	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	11
(b) Diagnosis not completed	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
(c) Non-Tuberculosis	46	40	7	5	0	1	1	1	101
(d) Tuberculosis Transfer Cases	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
T O T A L S	53	44	7	7	2	1	1	1	116

Number of Attendances at the Dispensary ..	282
Number of Domiciliary Visits	4
Number of Service Cases examined	11
Number of Official Evacuees examined	0
Number of Unofficial Evacuees examined ...	1
Number of cases referred by the Medical Board for examination	7
L.S.O. Cases Returned	3

The After-Care of Tuberculous Patients is now well established. This is a duty of the County Council and I have reason to believe that the assistance given to patients by the After-Care committee compares very favourably with other areas and the manner of giving is kindly.

I would wish that infected persons would make better use of facilities for disinfecting bedding etc. This should be done quarterly at least and will be done free if patients or their relatives would notify willingness at the Health Department.

The table overleaf gives the age incidence and sex of cases notified during 1945, and of deaths.



AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				D E A T H S			
	PULMONARY M.	F.	NON- PULMONARY M.	F.	PULMONARY M.	F.	NON- PULMONARY M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	2	2	-	-	3	-	-	-
45 - 54	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L S	9	5	1	0	3	-	-	-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

These remain unchanged. During 1945 790 specimens were sent to the Public Health Emergency Laboratory at Castle Bank and were reported on. These included -

St.Mary's Infirmary	133
Dr.Garrett Home	119
Groesynydd Isolation	
Hospital	164
Medical Practitioners	361
Conway & Colwyn Bay Joint	
Water Supply Board	13

Milk

I am glad to report that a start has been made to the supervision of the milk supply. I believe that milk is usually in good condition when it leaves the farm. I have visited some of the farms and find them passable. They can be improved: but the farmers show a real desire to produce a safe milk. If milk is good when it reaches the milk vendor and is not good when it reaches the consumer it must be agreed that the ways of the milk vendors demand investigation. Most milk vendors are painstaking, men who take a keen interest in their work. These we can help and will gladly do so.

Samples are now being taken regularly and tested for keeping quality for us by the Ministry of Agriculture & Fishery Officials. We shall soon find where faulty methods are employed. Every "bad" report is promptly followed up and advice offered.

Water

Conway has reason to be proud of those men who in the early days of this century secured our water supply and of those who 25 years ago negotiated its extension. The cheapest, most abundant and purest supply in the country is the result. We have far more water in reserve than we could use in a year.

That it is pure when it reaches our boundary has been and is regularly being proved. During 1946 we have begun to take samples for testing, at taps in the Borough. By so doing, we will be able to trace defects should they occur, and so secure pure water where it is most needed - in the home.

There are 15 premises within the Borough that do not receive water from the mains.

Mr.E.Oliver Jones, M.Inst.M & Cy.E., Engineer to the Conway & Colwyn Bay Joint Water Board has supplied me with the following statement: -

CONWAY BOROUGH WATER SUPPLY

"The Supply is obtained from the trunk mains of the Conway and Colwyn Bay Joint Water Supply Board, the source being Cowlyd Lake situate in the Caernarvonshire range of mountains at an altitude of 1200 ft. above ordnance datum. Connections to the trunk mains are provided at Gyffin, Conway Castle, Llandudno Junction crossing and Penybont. The supply is ample and recent analyses of the water from the trunk mains have been very satisfactory."

There are two stand pipes in the Borough: water is free from plumbo-solvent activity.

Ambulance Facilities

I have received the following statement from the Div. Secretary of the Conway & District Ambulance Corps.

No. Local Patients taken to Hospital and Nursing Homes ..	164
No. accidents dealt with	46
No. of patients conveyed long distances	35
No. of Patients outside the Borough conveyed to Hospital and Nursing Homes	46
Mileage	6,649

Nursing in the Home

There is no change to report in the arrangements for Home Nursing in the Borough. There are two nurses employed by two nursing associations. The Health Committee has suggested that a third nurse be employed and that some form of amalgamation be attempted. This may develop during 1946.

The nurses - Nurse B. Jones and Nurse E. Jones have kindly supplied me with a statement of the work they did in the Borough during 1945. I have united their statements.

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Visits</u>
Maternity & Midwifery ...	48	679
Ante-Natal	18	156
General		
(Medical and Surgical)	291	4256
Total Visits	-	5091

When one remembers that a visit by the District Nurse may entail for her an hour's work, it will be appreciated that the nurses have given real service. Moreover, they are "on call" at all times and are expected to answer summonses promptly.

There is no Home Help available in Conway.

Clinics

The County Council provides clinics as follows: -

1. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics at the Drill Hall, Conway, on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in each month at 2.p.m.
2. Minor Ailment Clinics - when required.
3. Pre and Post-Natal Clinics in Llandudno.

There is no Day Nursery in the Borough.

Venercal Diseases are treated as follows: -

Chester - Royal Infirmary: Out patients' Department.

Males	-	Monday 5 - 7 p.m. Saturdays noon.
Females	-	Monday 5 - 7 p.m. Thursday 5 - 7 p.m.

Bangor - Caernarvon & Anglesey Infirmary:
Out patients' Department.

Males	-	Tuesday 2 - 3 p.m.
Females	-	Friday 2 - 3 p.m.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

During 1945 and early 1946 strenuous efforts have been made to understand and master this problem. Many hours have been spent searching out breeding places and capturing specimens. The assistance of an outstanding entomologist has been obtained. Keen work by the Sanitary Inspector has led to much information being collected. Meantime, the known breeding ground on the Morfa, has been treated. The nuisance has been lessened but until the autumn it is not probable that we shall know all that we must know about types prevalent, breeding grounds etc. Therefore, I can go no further than to report progress.

RAT CONTROL

This has also received attention and the several infested areas were effectively treated. Continuous efforts in the older premises and the sewers etc. of the town is essential. Treatment is by gassing.

DRAINAGE

No major alterations in the drainage of the town were made in 1945. The town drainage is satisfactory.

One stream was found to be heavily polluted and the pollution was traced to premises in a neighbouring District. Action is pending.

HOUSING

A start is being made to the task of providing new houses. Where so many are needed - I consider that 250 are urgently desired - allocation of the first few will be difficult. The Council has accepted the principle of a points system and the Health Department has been quietly accumulating information so that the Estates Committee can be given advice when houses are allocated. When about 500 people all think they should have a first priority, it is difficult to select but I am glad that the Council is determined to use the first houses to combat ill-health, by putting into them the persons who for health reasons most need them.

FOOD & DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1933

The following statement was kindly supplied by Mr. E.T. Edwards, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures etc. to the Caernarvonshire County Council: -

BOROUGH OF CONWAY

Samples of Milk and Food obtained in the Borough of Conway during the Year 1945 amounted to 14 and were made up as follows: -

	<u>Genuine</u>	<u>Not Genuine</u>
Milk	9	2
Food	3	-

✓ One sample slightly below Standard for Fat and the other slightly below for Solids not Fat. No evidence of Added Water. Both vendors were communicated with.

The foods sampled were as follows: -

Curry Powder
"Pimento"
"Barlova"

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT TO MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1945

During the year the long awaited V. Day arrived and was celebrated with due thankfulness, relief and restraint, was becoming to the department. In the period which followed we were content to shed those war-time commitments which had so insidiously piled upon us. Fireguard duty, Fireguard and Civil Defence Training, Decontamination of Food, Roads and Buildings, Civil Defence Exercises, Examination and Umpiring Air Raid Wardens, Administration and Equipment, were all gradually brought to an end. Our association with Civil Defence had been a long one, having commenced in 1937, and as the years passed by our responsibilities did not decrease, and with countless others we had cheerfully committed ourselves to many long hours of duty and patient endeavour, for which the greatest reward was the constant encouragement and loyalty of our supporters and colleagues, and the many new friendships that have ensued.

The ordinary peacetime routine has not yet been resumed, and up to the end of the year, travelling allowance, which had been discontinued as a war measure, had not been reinstated. Transport was difficult, and the influx of holiday makers, released from war factories in the Midlands and Lancashire, put a great strain on the resources of the town. We who had duties to perform were compelled to compete with the visitors, not for a place in the sun, but for a place in the bus.

We look forward to the resumption of our normal functions and will endeavour to adjust ourselves to a changing world, and the post-war programmes of our new legislators is being awaited with interest.

REES GRIFFITHS.

Sanitary Inspector.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Among the infestation activities of the Sanitary Department, the control of mosquitoes continues to occupy a great deal of time. These have been in the area for some years, and many people experience much inconvenience and pain as a result of attacks by mosquitoes. From time to time complaints reach the office, usually very indirectly, because many sufferers accept the nuisance in much the same way as they would accept the presence of wasps and bees and wrongly consider it to be an inevitable part of outdoor life.

The nuisance is no doubt due to the many shallow pools and long stretches of brackish water, which are features of the coastal area to the west of the town. These ditches provide the ideal conditions for the encouragement of mosquito breeding, and much time and energy has been expended in applying effective larvicides. This is a task which requires regular and routine attention for the action of sun, wind, rain and tides gives an ever changing set of circumstances which tend rapidly to neutralise the effect of spraying, and the pools soon revert to conditions favourable for the mosquitoes.

Mosquito Control (cont.)

In the early part of the year, with the assistance of soldiers from a nearby camp, three thousand yards of ditches were twice sprayed, an operation which required forty gallons of larvicide. This action did not prove sufficient to eliminate the pests as live larvae were again in evidence within six weeks of treatment. Improved methods and more expert advice have been sought and it is hoped that better results will be obtained in the near future.

BUG INFESTATION

From time to time bug infestations are reported or are discovered in the course of house inspections. The publicity and discussion which heralded the release of D.D.T. for public use has created a great demand for products containing D.D.T.

From my own observations in the houses visited, I am led to believe that not all the preparation seen therein were purchased for the sole purpose of keeping down cockroaches, as was claimed by the occupants.

OTHER INFESTATIONS

Fleas, ants, beetles and mites have received their share of attention and some of the proprietary preparations containing added D.D.T. have proved very effective in dealing with such cases.

For my own part I am able to say that those preparations which were used, and upon which we learned to rely in pre-war days, are much the better for their post-war re-appearance with added D.D.T.

We have also been called upon on occasion to deal with wasp nests. Here there has been some criticism as to whether this is a public health function and one to which our time could properly be devoted. I hold the view that a wasp's nest can be a particularly unhealthy thing when established in the near proximity of an infants' school, a park or playing field or any other place where children or even grown-ups congregate. Two among the cases dealt with were very persistent, one in the bay window roof of a wooden bungalow, where the wasps recovered on three occasions, after every wasp had apparently been gassed. Another in the hollow wall of a semi-detached house, which withstood four assaults, although hundreds of wasps were killed on each occasion the colonies made repeated attempts to get re-established; it was impossible to destroy the nests without dismantling the building. In both cases the occupants of the houses were terrified of remaining in the houses.

Number of Visits

Visits of inspection and treatment	103
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RAT CONTROL

The control of rats occupies the attention of the sanitary staff to an increasing extent.

A scheme for the appointment of a full-time rat catcher is under the joint consideration of this and neighbouring authorities, but no decision has yet been reached. Such an appointment

would assure regular and routine preventative measures on public lands which adjoin and would provide a more adequate service for the treatment of premises occupied by private firms. Such measures as we have been able to carry out, show that there is a real necessity for constant vigilance in order to prevent the establishment of major infestations. The appointment of a male junior to the staff has been of great assistance in keeping observation and in applying treatment as soon as infestation has become noticeable.

Six local firms of traders have agreed to join in a block scheme of disinfection and to reimburse the Council for the cost incurred.

Number of inspections	293
Number of Disinfections	35
Number of Treatments	45

CAMPING

As in previous war years restrictions on housing and more stringent control of agricultural land have reduced considerably the areas normally used for camping. Annual licences have been issued to the owners of established sites, but for the most part these were used to a limited degree, by touring cyclists only.

No Sanitary or other nuisances have been found.

Licences issued	3
Visits of Inspection to Sites	4

FOOD & DRUGS ACTS

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

No private slaughterhouses have been used during the year. All meat is obtained from sources outside the Borough.

Some pig killing under licence of the Ministry of Food continues on farms, chiefly for the production of home cured bacon.

While many of the pigs are taken to neighbouring abattoirs for slaughter, others are killed on the farms. There are some objections to the insanitary and inhumane conditions under which the operations are thereby performed, the use of a humane killer is the exception rather than the rule.

BUTCHER SHOPS

There are ten butcher shops in the area, all are kept in a satisfactory condition.

Number of inspections to butcher shops.....	86
Number of inspections to other food shops..	65

CLASSIFIED LIST OF ARTICLES CONDEMNED

See list overleaf.

Number of Inspections under Food & Drug Act.. 81

Food & Drugs (cont.)

No Statutory action by the Borough Council or its Officers has been instituted.

(Action under those sections operated by the County Council forms the subject of a separate report.)

LIST OF CONDEMNED FOOD

Peas	3 tins	Lemonade Powder	41 lbs
Condensed Milk	137 "	Butter	15 "
Dried Milk	25 "	Bread	12 "
Apples	1 barrel	Potatoes	2 Cwts.
American Tomatoes	5 tins	Biscuits	155 lbs
Baked Beans	83 "	Semolina	31 Pkts
Marmalade	41 lbs.	Cake Flour	4 "
Browning	5 Bottles	Bun	49 "
Salmon	19 tins	Pigeons	1 "
Herrings	11 "	Orange Squash	2 Btls
Sardines	10 "	Luncheon Meat	42 lbs.
Mackerel	17 "	Tinned Tongue	1 "
Mackerel	21 Stones	Sausage Meat	11 "
Pilchards	21 tins	Meat Balls in Gravy	2 "
Herrings	12 Stones	Jellied Veal	60 "
Plaice	15 "	Chopped Ham	4 "
Fish Cakes	1 Pkt.	Chopped Pork	5 "
Cod Liver Oil	12 Bottles	Stewed Steak	23 "
Fish Paste	6 Jars	Corned Beef	1 "
Shrimps	3 tins.	Mutton	26 "
Bacon	54 lbs.		

ICE CREAM

This made a welcome re-appearance in the latter part of the year, is obtained locally, principally from manufacturing sources outside the Borough and is delivered in paper covered blocks or in metal churns previously frozen.

FOOD POISONING

It is of interest to record an instance where prompt action on the part of neighbouring colleagues in sending us warning information; co-operation between the various health authorities averted the possibility of a severe outbreak of food poisoning.

A consignment of jellied veal which had been manufactured in a neighbouring town was distributed to retail shops and a hotel in this area. This consignment formed part of a batch which had also been distributed to other North Wales towns and subsequently identified as the source of several reported cases of food poisoning.

Owing to the prompt action of our colleagues we were able to detain the offending veal before any had been actually sold or consumed. Samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory were adversely reported on, as a result of which all detained jellied veal was seized and destroyed.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE BOROUGHHOUSING STATISTICSInspection of dwelling houses during the year

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	142
	Number of inspections made for the purpose	419
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	0
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	0
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	142

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notice

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers.....	136
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3. Action under statutory Powers during the year -

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 -	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	9
	(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice -	
	(a) By Owners	7
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	0
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts -	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	32
	(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice -	
	(a) By Owners	26
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	0
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 -	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
	(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
	Houses scheduled demolished by Owners	0
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 -	
	(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0

Housing Statistics - (cont.)

(1)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, (cont.)	
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit	0
	Number of houses built by private enterprise	0
	Number of houses built by Borough Council	0

HOUSING ACT, 1935 - Overcrowding -

(a)	(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	0	*
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein	0	*
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	0	*
(b)	Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	5	
(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year by Local Authority	4	
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	30	
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0	
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report		*

* Owing to the war-time conditions which still operate in the Borough, there is, of necessity, a continuation of the over-crowding as referred to in previous Annual Reports.

WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1945: -

Number of Houses inspected for housing defects	142
" " " found not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	142
" " Defective Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action	136
" " Defective Houses rendered fit in consequence of formal action	7
" " Houses recommended for demolition	0
" " Houses re-inspected, including the supervision of repairs	419
" " Informal Notices served	136
" " Formal Notices served	17

MILK AND DAIRIES

No.of Producer Retailers	11
No.of Producer Wholesalers	14
No.of Producers for Home Consumption (Convalescent Homes).	1
No.Retailing only	10
Bottling Licence (T.T.).....	1
Retailing Licence (T.T.)	1
Accredited Producers	1
Samples taken in 1945	0
Visits to Dairies	70
Visits to Retailing Carts	6
Visits to Cowsheds	80

Notices Served

Statutory	0
Informal and Verbal	13
Dirty Cow Flanks	5
Limewashing	4
Removal of Manure	3
Defective Drainage	1
Complied	13

It is a matter for comment that the number of producer retailers shows a reduction and that the number of producer wholesalers have increased. There is a tendency for the small producer retailer to go out of business, and to transfer or sell his round to the specialist retailer, who is not interested in production and handles pool milk only.

Good conditions on farms have been well maintained, and there is a desire on the part of the farmers to qualify for graded status, and it is anticipated that there will be a general improvement in farm buildings, when building materials and labour are more freely available.

TUBERCULOSIS

Fumigations after removal to Sanatorium.	1
Fumigation after death	1

Bedding used by the patients was stoved in both cases

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Removal of bedding for stoving and fumigations of rooms after removal was carried out on twenty-five occasions.

FACTORIES

Nineteen visits of inspection were made to local factories and workplaces, the aid and co-operation of H.M.Inspector of Factories was enlisted in connection with the light and ventilation at a factory bakehouse.

BAKEHOUSES

There are fourteen bakehouses in the area, of which one is an underground bakehouse for which an exemption certificate is in operation.

No.of Visits of Inspection made during the year	23
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SHOPS (HOURS OF CLOSING) ACT.

The war-time restrictions on opening hours and shop lighting, continue to discourage infringements of the Acts, and supervision work has, therefore, been considerably reduced.

YOUNG PERSONS (HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT) ACT

In no case have the hours of employment of young persons been exceeded.

No. of Inspections carried out for the
above purpose 131

NOTICES, 1945.

Informal 136 Statutory ... 17

The following defects have come to the notice of the Sanitary Department and have formed the subject of notices.

Housing and Public Health Acts

Defective Drains	17
Defective Yard Paving	5
Defective Yard Gully	1
Leaking Roofs	3
Defective External Walls	6
Defective Internal Walls	8
<u>Defective W.C.'s</u>	
Structural	4
Pans	3
Flushes	8
defective Downspouts and Gutters	5
Dampness	3
Defective Chimneys	11
Defective Grates and Ranges	8
Defective Refuse Bins	96
Insufficient Water Supply	9
Unclean Houses	6

The shortage of labour and materials continues to restrict the work which can be carried out. It is one matter to serve a notice, but it is an entirely different proposition to get builders to give estimates and to carry out the work. When one considers the huge arrears of maintenance work, left over during the past five years, it is better to ask for a little and often, rather than to saturate the jobbers with the long detailed requirements of innumerable notices, which stand no chance of being completed. Another disconcerting feature is the new licencing system, whereby the statutory requirements of a local authority, operated in the interest of Public Health, can be cancelled or obstructed by an officer of that authority.

OVERCROWDING

The Council has satisfactorily abated two very bad cases of family overcrowding. Suitable accommodation was found in existing council houses.

SLUM CLEARANCE HOUSES (Council Estates)

Regular inspections continue to be made of houses especially built to accommodate people from slum clearance areas, and 350 inspections have been carried out for that purpose. Reports are generally satisfactory, but where the tenant is consistently neglectful the Council does not hesitate to take appropriate action. Two applications to the Court for possession were successful, in cases where the tenants had failed to respond to warnings about their habits and behaviour. In both cases charges of filth and damage were proved.

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY
Hygiene Certificate

The Department has co-operated in the training of candidates for the Society's Hygiene Certificate. The Sanitary Inspector has lectured, free of charge, on those sections of the syllabus covering sanitary matters.

Two classes of Juniors received training and lectures were given on many occasions at W.E.A. Classes on Local Government.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

<u>Sanitary</u>	Factories	19
	Complaints	98
	Nuisances	93
	Fumigations	27
	Disinfestations	103
	Camps	4
	House Refuse	252
	Rats	293
	Inspections under Public Health Act ..	663
	Miscellaneous	68
	Drains	6
<u>Housing</u>		
	Inspections	156
	Overcrowding	2
<u>Shops</u>		
	Butchers	86
	Bakehouses	23
	Others	131
	Food	65
	Food & Drugs	81
<u>Milk and</u>		
<u>Dairies</u>		
	Dairies	70
	Cowsheds	80

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HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Total number of miles covered during the year - including Salvage. (Estimated owing to breakdowns)	5,592
Average weekly mileage	107
Total number of loads collected (excluding Salvage)	1,038
Average weekly loads collected	19
Total weight of Refuse collected - (average load is 2 tons)	2,076
Average weekly weight collected	40
New calls made during the year	N I L
Population of the Borough (Registrar General's estimate)	9,888
Area in acres	4,703
Weight per 1,000 persons per annum (Tons)	200
Refuse weighed	1 1/2
Net Exp. } Collection	£209
per 1,000 } Disposal	£37
persons } Total	£246

SALVAGE RECOVERED

<u>1944</u>	<u>1945</u>		<u>1944</u>	<u>1945</u>
48 1/2	44	Tons Paper	£445	£300
2 1/2	3	Tons Rags	£54	£39
1	1 1/2	Ton Non-Ferrous Metal	£16	£8
2	1	Tons Bones	£7	£3
Methods of collection			100%	Mechanical Haulage.
Methods of disposal			100%	Controlled Tipping.
Average haul (miles)				3.4
Average number of persons per house (estimated)				5.5
Wet refuse (if any)				N O N E
Average interval between collections				SEVEN DAYS
		in Urban Area, FOURTEEN DAYS outlying Districts.		
Is Refuse brought to the kerbside by Tenants?				N O

The arrangements with the Nant Conway Rural District Council for the collection of refuse in the Llochwedd Area have been continued.

